

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 19453 021804Z

14

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /030 W

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R 021723Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8367

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 19453

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, UK, IS

SUBJECT: NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL

1. FCO HAS ANNOUNCED APPOINTMENT OF JOHN C. M. MASON, ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY FOR SEVERAL COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC MATTERS, AS NEW BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL. MASON WAS BORN IN 1927, SERVED WITH THE BRITISH FORCES FROM 1944-48 AND 1950-51. HE JOINED THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN 1952, AND SERVED IN ROME AND WARSAW. FROM 1962 TO 1965 HE SERVED AS COMMERCIAL OFFICER IN DAMASCUS AND HAS SINCE REMAINED IN THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL CONE. FROM 1968 TO 1971 HE WAS DIRECTOR OF TRADE DEVELOPMENT AND DEPUTY CONSUL GENERAL IN NEW YORK, WHICH HE SAYS HE ENJOYED THOROUGHLY. HE THEN RETURNED TO THE FCO TO BECOME HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN INTEGRATION DEPARTMENT. HE WAS SEVERELY ILL DURING THE LATE 1960'S BUT HAS ENTIRELY RECOVERED.

2. MASON HAS NEVER VISITED ISRAEL BUT IS ASSIDUOUSLY PURSUING HIS BRIEFINGS, INCLUDING FROM EMBOFF. HE IS AMUSING AND URBANE, BUT DIRECT TALKING, AND IS OBVIOUSLY ACCUSTOMED TO MAINTAINING A CLOSE AND CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. HE PLANS TO ARRIVE WITH HIS FAMILY ABOUT DECEMBER 14.

ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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